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DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# Intelligence Memorandum

*Peking's Naval Cruise Missile Systems*

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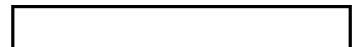


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
28 June 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Peking's Naval Cruise Missile Systems

Summary

Recent events indicate that Peking is now going ahead with plans for deployment of naval cruise missile systems involving both coastal defense missiles and patrol boats equipped with cruise missiles. Deployment of guided missile patrol boats to all three fleet areas in Communist China, the construction of new missile sites, and the occupation of already established coastal defense cruise missile sites suggest that the Chinese are now able to produce the missiles for the systems. Although work on the systems probably began in 1959, only recently have there been indications that the land-based program may be approaching a stage of operational deployment to coastal areas. The guided missile patrol boats have been operationally deployed to the three fleet areas since 1966.

NOTE: This memorandum was produced solely by CIA. It was prepared by the Office of Current Intelligence and coordinated with the Office of Research and Reports, the Office of Scientific Intelligence, and the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center.

Missile Systems

2. Communist China's naval missile systems probably consist of two types. One is the SS-N-2 (STYX) cruise missile which is carried on the Osa- and Komar-class patrol boats. This weapon [redacted] [redacted] is liquid-fuel rocket propelled with a solid fuel booster, and has a maximum effective [redacted] The other type is the SSC-2b (SAMLET) missile which is deployed at

[redacted] 0

3. Soviet cruise missiles supplied to Communist China and possibly a Chinese Communist - produced cruise missile system patterned after Soviet designs may have been tested in the early-to-mid 1960s [redacted]

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4. The Soviet Union is known to have supplied Peking with at least 22 cruise missiles prior to the aid cutoff in 1960. Recent deployment of both guided missile patrol boats and expansion of cruise missile sites, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] indicate that Peking is now producing these two missiles.

Deployment

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[REDACTED] Today there are at least eight and possibly 12 of these boats in the Chinese Communist Navy (CCN). Of these, five are the large Osa-class boats (PTFG). These craft can carry four STYX missiles. The remainder are of the small Komar-class (PTG) which carries two of the STYX missiles. At the present time the South Sea Fleet (SSF) has two Osa-class, the North Sea Fleet (NSF) has two Osa-class and two Komar-class, and the East Sea Fleet has one Osa-class and at least one and possibly five of the Komar-class. Most of these boats were probably constructed in Shanghai, although some may have been built in Canton.

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6. [REDACTED] the construction of one probable and one possible cruise missile site on the southern tip of Hainan Island. The primary function of these sites will probably be the defense of Yu-lin Naval Base--a major base in the SSF--but they also pose a threat to ships operating in the Gulf of Tonkin.

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Outlook

10. Recent developments suggest that SAMLET cruise missiles are ready to be deployed for coastal defense in Communist China. Disposition of these sites so far shows that initial construction of the sites and deployment of the missiles will be in areas that Peking considers sensitive. It is likely, therefore, that the construction of sites will begin in the near future along the Taiwan Straits and near Canton and Shanghai.

11. With the apparent availability of a cruise missile for the Osa- and Komar-class boats, more of these boats will probably be deployed to the three naval fleets. Initial operational training for the crews that man these boats will probably continue and will be conducted in the Pohai Gulf and elsewhere in the NSF area.

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Talking paper for "Peking's Naval Cruise Missile Systems"

This self-initiated memo was written at this time to alert readers to the impending deployment of both coastal defense and patrol boat cruise missile systems in China. Although fragments of the story have been told in publications in the last two or three years, the full story of the development of the missile systems has never been published in the intelligence community.

The main points are:

- China began to work on naval missiles as early as 1959.
- Two cruise missile systems have been developed; one for mounting on patrol boats [redacted] and [redacted] one for land-based coastal sites [redacted]
- China is probably now capable of producing its own missiles.
- There is evidence that both systems will become operational in the near future.

Recommend that the memo be given routine internal and external dissemination to the extent that the classification permits.